

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

of

Kimmo Hämynen,  
Johannes Lehto,  
Jim Lundin,  
Yi-Hong Zhu,  
Anna Karri, and  
Kevin McCarthy

for a

SYSTEM AND PROTOCOL FOR PROVIDING PICTURES  
IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MESSAGES

0972148-10401  
FOOT-84T2660

SYSTEM AND PROTOCOL FOR PROVIDING PICTURES  
IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MESSAGES

RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present invention is related to the following U.S.  
applications:

Ser. No. 09/864,855, entitled *System and Protocol for  
Extending Funtionality of Wireless Communication Messaging*,  
filed May 23, 2001.

Ser. No. 09/864,897, entitled *System for Personal Messaging*,  
filed May 23, 2001.

The present invention is also related to the following  
international application:

International application no. PCT/EP00/02370, entitled  
*Communication Terminal Handling Messages Including Graphics*,  
filed March 16, 2000, which claims priority to GB application  
no. 9906316.6, filed March 18, 1999.

The related applications are assigned to the present  
assignee. The subject matter of the related applications are  
hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention pertains to wireless communication  
messaging (as opposed to voice wireless communication). More  
particularly, the present invention relates to providing  
messages including pictures (and possibly accompanying text)  
from one mobile terminal to another via for example the so-  
called Short Message Service.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In recent years, data services have become popular for mobile communications systems, including the very popular so-called short messaging service (SMS), which makes use of underutilized bandwidth of signaling channels to allow short text messages. With SMS, users are able to exchange alphanumeric messages (up to 160 characters in length), and the messages are delivered within seconds of their being transmitted. Of course the networks traversed in providing the messages from one user to another must all be digital cellular networks. Although SMS was originally conceived as a paging mechanism for notifying users of the arrival of voicemail, it is now used primarily as a messaging service. A new use for SMS is a picture messaging application for cellular telephones that is presently being offered by the assignee hereof for allowing users to create and download picture messages into his or her proprietary mobile telephone (e.g., Nokia 3210 GSM) and send them to another, compatible proprietary telephone (another Nokia 3210 or a Nokia 8210 or Nokia 8850). With a likewise proprietary messaging platform (e.g., Nokia Artus Messaging Platform), operators are able to enhance usage of SMS for their subscribers. Such a simple graphic message service provides a black-and-white picture, for instance 72 x 28 pixels, along with a short greeting displayed below the picture. A maximum size of the greeting is specified, for example 120 characters.

What is needed is a way to create, store and edit simple clip-art type pictures for use in messages sent via wireless communication, using for example SMS. Ideally, a mobile phone would be able to store a collection of such clip-art pictures, and a user would be able to pick one or more clip-art pictures from the collection to include in a message. Even more